



**BRIEFING: JANUARY 14, 2014 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM #4**

**TO:** Chairman Richard and Board Members

**FROM:** Tom Fellenz, Chief Counsel

**DATE:** January 14, 2014

**RE:** Extension of Contract with Caltrans for Legal Services for Time Only

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**Background**

The California High-Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) interagency agreement with the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for Right-of-Way (ROW) legal services is currently set to expire at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2014, and requires Board approval for a time-only amendment.

The Authority is acquiring real property in the Central Valley for the first construction section of the Initial Operating Segment (IOS) and legal resources are required to provide counsel and litigation support for property acquisitions. Caltrans currently provides those legal services through Interagency Agreement HSR 11-18, that the Board approved on March 01, 2012 as Resolution HSRA #12-07, under which the Authority reimburses Caltrans for its actual costs incurred. There is no change to the total estimated costs for these legal services of \$7.3 million. These services provided by Caltrans are necessary for the high-speed rail project and must be extended through fiscal year 2016-17 to resolve all possible issues arising from the eminent domain process and to assure consistency and completion of the property acquisition process.

Authority staff has determined it is in the best interest of the State to extend the existing contract for ROW legal services with the Caltrans through June 30, 2017 for ROW legal services and therefore requests Board approval of the staff recommendation.

**Recommendations**

Staff recommends that the Board approve a time-only contract amendment with Caltrans through June 30, 2017 for ROW legal services.

**Attachments**

Resolution HSRA # 12-07  
Resolution HSRA # 14-02